



## Disciples *Making Disciples*



**Parish Office:**  
6280 6076, [secretariat@sfxchurch.sg](mailto:secretariat@sfxchurch.sg)



**Parish Priest:**  
Rev Fr Benedict Chng  
6288 0484  
[benedict.chng@catholic.org.sg](mailto:benedict.chng@catholic.org.sg)



**Little Shepherds' Schoolhouse@St Francis Xavier:**  
6011 1076, [lss-cosfx.admin@catholicpreschool.edu.sg](mailto:lss-cosfx.admin@catholicpreschool.edu.sg)

**Assistant Priest:**  
Rev Fr Edward Lim  
6282 3151  
[frelim@catholic.org.sg](mailto:frelim@catholic.org.sg)

# Divine Mercy - Jesus' Easter Gift

Divine Mercy Sunday  
07 Apr 2024

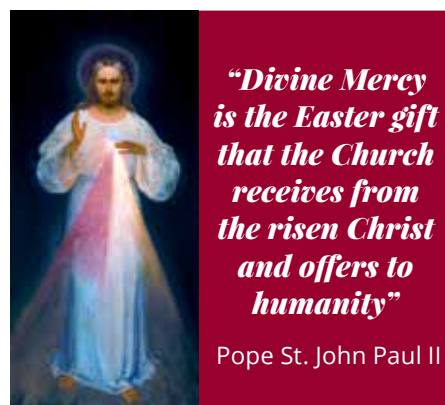
Acts 4: 32-35  
1 Jn 5: 1-6  
Jn 20: 19-31

It has been some 90 years since St. Faustina Kowalska had her vision of Jesus as Divine Mercy painted in June 1934. She received the vision on the night of Sun 22 Feb 1931 with Jesus appearing in a white garment with red and pale rays emanating from his heart. Jesus told her, "Paint an image according to the pattern you see, with the signature: 'Jesus, I trust in You'... I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish." (Diary: Notebook I, 47-48)

Sr. Faustina died in 1938 and was canonised in 2000. At the Mass, Pope St. John Paul II also established Divine Mercy Sunday as an annual Feast to be on the Second Sunday of Easter. Quoting from St. Faustina's diary, he said: "The two rays, Jesus himself explained to her one day, 'represent blood and water'... We immediately [recall] a soldier on Calvary pierced Christ's side with his spear [and] see blood and water flowing from it (cf. Jn 19: 34)... [B]lood recalls the sacrifice of the Cross and the gift of the Eucharist, water [represents] not only Baptism but also the gift of the Holy Spirit (cf. Jn 3:5)." Divine Mercy is thus, "... the Easter gift that the Church receives from the risen Christ and offers to humanity" (Homily, 22 April 2001).

Dr Robert Stackpole, Director of the Divine Mercy Institute in

Massachusetts, says that "Divine Mercy is God's love reaching down to meet the needs and overcome the miseries of His creatures." Instead of us sinners needing to beg the Lord for forgiveness, he comes to meet us and we can see this in the Divine Mercy image, with Jesus' left foot being more forward than his right foot - he comes to us with his Mercy.



Jesus invites us today to allow him to be "a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners" (Diary, 699). We all need to acknowledge that we are sinners in need of Jesus' mercy. To receive the graces offered on Divine Mercy Sunday, Jesus asks us to do the following:

**Make a contrite confession** (Diary, 699) - Jesus' forgiveness "fills us with the wellspring of mercy and of grace that flows unceasingly from the open heart of the Crucified and Risen Christ" (Pope Francis, General Audience 19 Feb. 2014). In today's gospel, the disciples were transformed by this wellspring of mercy as Jesus breathed into them. Jesus did not reproach them for abandoning him to his executioners. It is hard to believe that he even entrusted his grace to them to be missionaries of his mercy, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven..." (Jn 20:22-23).

**Receive Holy Communion** (Diary, 1109) - Our Lord loves us so much that he wants to remain with us through the Eucharist - his Real Presence under the form of bread and wine. St. Faustina calls the Eucharist, the "Bread of the Strong" from which she draws courage and strength (Diary, 91). The Eucharist helps her lead a life "pure, immaculate, undefiled" (Diary, 159).

**Be merciful to others in deed, word, and prayer** (Diary, 742) - "In these three degrees is contained the fullness of mercy, and it is an unquestionable proof of love for Me [Jesus]." Corporal and spiritual acts of mercy have always been exhorted by the church. Corporal works of mercy consist in feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and imprisoned, and burying the dead. Spiritual acts of mercy include instructing others in the faith, advising, consoling, comforting, forgiving and bearing wrongs patiently. In today's readings, we see the early Christians manifesting Jesus' mercy by their sharing: "everything they owned was held in common" (Acts 4:32) and exhorting faith: "believe that Jesus is the Christ... begotten by God" (1 Jn 5:1).

Underlying this, Jesus wants our trust (Diary, 1578): "The graces of My mercy are drawn by the means of one vessel only, and that is - trust. The more a soul trusts, the more it will receive."

Let us wholeheartedly welcome the risen Christ's gift of Divine Mercy today. Jesus, I trust in You!

## Announcements

For announcements in the bulletin, send your requests to [mmm@sfxchurch.sg](mailto:mmm@sfxchurch.sg) by the MONDAY before the weekend, 2359hrs



**SCAN QR CODE  
FOR MASS HYMNS**  
[www.sfxchurch.sg/mass](http://www.sfxchurch.sg/mass)

### PARISH OFFICE CLOSURE

The Parish Office will be closed on **Wed 10 Apr (Hari Raya Puasa)**. Please note that there will be one mass at 9am only.

### FR BENEDICT AWAY

Please note that Fr Benedict will be away from **7 - 17 Apr** for Diaconate of Shawn Wong in Malta. Please keep them in prayer.

### SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

The RCIA Ministry will be serving breakfast this Sunday at JPII Hall. Do drop by for some food and fellowship.

### CHARISMATIC

The next Charismatic Prayer session is on **Mon 8 Apr, 8pm - 9.30pm at Auditorium**. There will be Praise & Worship followed by Praying Over. All are welcome!

### THE WAY OF LIGHT: STATIONS OF THE RESURRECTION

Come join us every **Easter Thursday, 7.15pm**. Meet outside Kindergarten. All are welcome!

### CANDLELIGHT ROSARY PROCESSION

Come join us on **Sat 13 Apr, 8pm** at JPII Hall for the rosary procession within the church grounds followed by fellowship. You may bring your own waxless candle.

### ONE: EASTER REFLECTION BOOKLET

The Office for the New Evangelisation (ONE) has launched their Easter Reflection Booklet: **"Witnessing A New Life"**. Let us delve deeper into the Word this Easter season and Witness a New Life in Christ!



Scan the QR code or visit [bit.ly/ONE-Easter-2024](http://bit.ly/ONE-Easter-2024) to download the booklet.

Come join us **every Tues at 8.30pm** in **Thessalonians Rm** to reflect on the Word - using this and other resources.

## ETERNAL REST: THE ART OF DYING WELL

Death is the end, but it is not *the* end. Join the LiFE Ministry as they screen a series "Eternal Rest: The Art of Dying Well" which examines the origin of death, the afterlife, and the powerful reality around the sacrament that ushers us into eternal life. There will also be a session on "Mary and the Saints" which answers the question why we ask Mary and the Saints to pray for us.

**Dates:** 5, 12, 19, 26 Apr; 3 May (Fridays)  
**Time:** 8pm - 9.30pm  
**Venue:** JPII Hall  
**Register:** Contact Brian (9789 2253) / Monica (9669 6781)

## ALIVE, VICTORIOUS, FREE

You're invited to "Alive, Victorious, Free" - a celebratory night of worship with music and movement on **Sat 27 Apr, 7.30pm at SFX Auditorium**. Join us to celebrate Jesus' Resurrection, with the harmonies of music and the grace of movement intertwined as we express our freedom this Easter using song and dance. This night promises to ignite hearts, lift spirits, and draw us closer to the eternal truth of Easter. Come Alive in Christ, be Victorious in Resurrection! Register at [tinyurl.com/alivefree](http://tinyurl.com/alivefree).

## THE CATECHETICAL MINISTRY: LOVE, SEX AND THE MYSTERY OF GENDER

In this seminar, the Catechetical Ministry tries to clarify the increasing confusion about sex and gender in today's culture looking at these issues through the lens of science and faith, and help participants understand better God's plan for love, marriage and sex, in order that we can have more fruitful discussions with our children, students and contemporaries. Seats are limited. A love offering of \$5.00 is requested to defray the cost of the tea break and cover the utilities.

**Date:** Sat 25 May 2024  
**Time:** 1.30pm - 4.30pm  
**Venue:** SFX Auditorium  
**Register:** <https://tinyurl.com/LSMG2024>

## CARITAS SINGAPORE SOCIAL MISSION CONFERENCE 2024

Our Faith calls us to action, and here's your chance to answer that call! Don't miss out on this opportunity to be part of a movement that's making a difference in our community and beyond. Since 2008, the Caritas Singapore Social Mission Conferences have been igniting inspiration and raising awareness about the charitable work that the Caritas Singapore Family is doing. Now, it's your turn to join in and be inspired! Together, let's explore how we can respond to the Cry of the Earth and the Cry of the Poor. We'll examine the intimate connection between caring for each other and our planet. This isn't just a conference — it's a chance to shape a society that respects the dignity of all. Sign up now and be part of something truly meaningful.

**Date:** Sat 25 May 2024  
**Time:** 9am - 5.30pm  
**Venue:** Catholic Junior College - Performing Art Centre  
**Register:** <https://bit.ly/caritassmc2024>



## OYP: SEEDS OF GROWTH

Are you a JC/IB student? Need a break from studying all week? Come join us at Seeds of Growth 2024. There'll be praise and worship sessions, food and drinks will be served, and a chance to meet new friends to help grow your faith and nourish your body and soul. We'll be meeting over three Saturdays & we would love to see you there! Sign up at the link, or even better, grab a few friends & sign up together. We're looking forward to meeting you! For enquiries, contact Gabriella at [gabriella.oyp@catholic.org.sg](mailto:gabriella.oyp@catholic.org.sg) or Kristen at [kristen.oyp@catholic.org.sg](mailto:kristen.oyp@catholic.org.sg).

**Dates:** 13 Apr, 27 Apr, 4 May (Saturdays)  
**Time:** 10.30am - 1.30pm (Lunch included)  
**Venue:** Office for Young People (2 Lorong Low Koon)  
**Register:** [tinyurl.com/oypsog24](http://tinyurl.com/oypsog24)



## CATHOLIC FAMILY LIFE: CATHOLIC PARENTING WORKSHOP

Is there a Catholic way in parenting your children? As Catholic parents, we "receive from God the gift of new responsibility to become for the children the visible sign of the very love of God." (Familiaris Consortio, 14). We are called to be the primary evangelisers of our children, to reveal God to them and lead them to Him. Join us in a workshop conducted over 2 sessions to prepare you for intentional Catholic parenting.

**Dates:** 6 & 13 Apr 2024 (Saturdays)

**Time:** 3.15pm - 5.15pm

**Venue:** St Joseph's Church (Bukit Timah) Parish Hall

**Cost:** Workshop fee of \$20 per pax

**Register:** [bit.ly/CP\\_SJC](https://bit.ly/CP_SJC)



# Highlights of Holy Week & Easter

## MAUNDY THURSDAY



*Washing of feet*



*Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament*



*"Promise of Obedience"*



*Veneration of the Cross*



**HOLY FATHER'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL: FOR THE ROLE OF WOMEN**

We pray that the dignity and immense value of women be recognised in every culture, and for the end of discrimination that they experience in different parts of the world.

## IN THE MONTH OF MAR 2024

### WEDDINGS

We congratulate the following couple:

1. Marie Kelvin Mark & Fatty Apilado Esteban

### CONDOLENCES

We offer our prayers to the families of the following who have returned to the Lord:

1. Tan Heng Tong William

### BAPTISMS & CONFIRMATIONS

We welcome the following:

#### Infant/Child Baptisms:

1. Guan Yu Xiang Tristan Josiah
2. Guan Jie Ren Travis Isaiah

#### Adult Baptisms:

1. Ashwini Dymphna Kimberly Subramaniam
2. Benjamin William Wee
3. Carris Olivia Chen
4. Cephas R Chee Jiwong Nian
5. Justin Goh
6. Magdalene Heidi Boon
7. Judith Lim Hui Juian
8. Jean Lim Hui Juin
9. Jude Chew Hui Jun
10. Janet Myra Foo Soo Ting
11. Lucius Jude Tan Kai Peng
12. Madeleine Clare Ong
13. Marcus Yeong
14. Ryan Guan Jishun
15. Samantha Miriam Tan
16. Nicholas Tan See Chow
17. Shaun Lu
18. Loo Shu Yi Stephanie
19. Emmanuel Terence Teo Yixian
20. Nai Lee Kheng Theresa Clare
21. Michael Jude Chua
22. Tan Yi Lin Eleora
23. Chiu Le Xuan Sarah
24. Jaylen Leonard Yeo
25. Khor Chun Chon Fabian
26. Janelle Frances Yeo
27. Kelly Grace Mar Hui Juan
28. Lavinia Mikaela Somanesan
29. Nathanael Lye En Lih
30. Edwina Clare Ng Li Zhen
31. Kayla Rae Foong
32. Nicole Anne Yong
33. Charlton Tan
34. Isaac Chua Kah Sheng
35. Franz Matthew Paul Galindez Reyes
36. Nathan Emmanuel Kang
37. Noah Mark Foong

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## EASTER VIGIL



*"He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said.  
Come, see the place where He was lying." Matthew 28:6*



*"Rejoicing for the new members  
of the Catholic Church"*



*Blessing of the fire*



*The paschal candle  
representing the light of  
Christ coming into  
the world*



*Our priests with the new neophytes  
of the SFX community*



*New Catholics share Easter joy of life in Christ*



### Mass Times

#### WEEKDAY MASSES

**Mon - Thu:**  
6.30pm

**Tue - Sat:**  
6.30am

**Fri:**  
8pm

#### WEEKEND MASSES

**Sat:** 5.30pm

**Sun:** 7am, 9am,  
11am, 5.30pm  
(There is currently no  
Confession before Mass)

#### MASS ON PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

9am

#### CONFESSION

Contact Parish Office to  
make an appointment.

**Fri:**  
4pm - 6pm

**Sat:**  
10am - 12pm

### Opening Hours

#### MAIN GATE

**Mon - Sun:**  
5am - 11pm  
Closed on Public Holidays  
after 9am Mass

#### BACK GATE

**Mon - Sun:**  
5am - 1am  
Closed on Public Holidays  
after 9am Mass

#### PARISH OFFICE

**Mon - Sat:**  
9.30am - 6.30pm  
**Sun:** 8.30am - 1pm  
Closed on Public Holidays

#### ADORATION ROOM

**Mon - Sun:**  
7am - 11pm  
Closed on Public Holidays

#### LIBRARY

**Sun:** 8am - 1pm

#### COLUMBARIUM

**Mon - Fri:**  
10am - 6pm

#### Sat - Sun:

8.30am - 6pm  
Closed on Public Holidays

### ANointing OF THE SICK



The sacrament can be administered to any Catholic awaiting serious surgery, suffering from serious illness or weakened by old age. Anointing may be given before admission for the anticipated medical procedure. Contact the Parish Office to request for a priest. In emergencies, priests of the church nearest to the hospital can be contacted.

### INFANT BAPTISM



Spiritual preparation is held on the last Friday of every odd month. Baptism is held on the first/second Sunday of the following month. For registration, please refer to our website.

### FUNERAL



Please check with the Parish Office for priest availability and Mass timing before confirming the timing at the crematorium. For prayers at the wake, please contact the Parish Office.

### MARRIAGE



Contact the Parish Office 12 months before your intended date to book the church premises and ensure that your presiding priest is able to make that date.

### MASS OFFERING



Mass offering envelopes are available outside the Parish Office and outside JP11 Hall. Submit your envelopes at least two weeks in advance of your intended date. Please write the names clearly, and in block letters.

### VOLUNTEER & SHARE YOUR GIFTS!

If you're interested in content curation and design layout, contact [mmm@sfxchurch.sg](mailto:mmm@sfxchurch.sg)